



Electronic Data Reporting Template

Closing the Gap Results Report (Small Group)

School:

ROOSEVELT JUNIOR HIGH

Target Group:

Students At-Risk for Failure

Target Group selection is based upon:

Failing Grades at Mid-Term

Key Word:

Failing Notices vs. Failures

ABSTRACT

As part of our school improvement plan, communication with parents has been identified as a key component in helping students succeed. Because students are required to master concepts in English, Math, History, and Science, as well as earn 12 credits in junior high toward high school, those students at risk for failing classes receive notices at mid-term and are encouraged to make up assignments before the grades become failures. The purpose of the project is to determine the effectiveness of the failing notices in minimizing the number of failing grades at the end of each quarter.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Record the number of Failing Letters issued at Mid-Term in relation to the number of failing grades at quarter end for all failed grades during the year. Compare the data to previous years to validate conclusions.

Introduction

- This project focuses on Competency AL:A3.1 "Achieve School Success" from the Utah CCGP model for "Developing Basic Skills"

Participants

- Between 65 and 190 students
- Failing students – including core classes and electives

Method

- Prepare Failing Notice Letters at Mid-Term and Quarter end for all failing classes
- Mail copies of progress notes home for each failing student (including D-) at Mid-term
- Include copies of failing slips from teachers, or class progress notes
- ENCOURAGE homework strategies, tutoring, planners, and POWERSCHOOL tracking
- Review strategies in Study Skills, Advisory, and afterschool study classes
- Record the number of notices sent during the year
- Prepare and evaluate the data – submit conclusions

RESULTS

On average, 58% of those students who were failing at mid-term were able to bring their grades up before the end of the quarter. The numbers are more significant when expressed as student totals – an average of 169 students received failing notices at mid-term (out of 406 students), but only 74 on average (for 2008) failed classes at the quarter end. That means that on average, 95 students PASSED that received notices. Results for the current year continue to reflect the same trend, and the attached chart will be updated throughout the year.

DISCUSSION

Due to the significant effect of the communication parents receive with the failing letters, we feel that this important tool should continue to be used even though it is somewhat costly and takes time to prepare. Many parents that receive these notices are grateful for the opportunity to help their students *catch* up before the grade has to be *made* up.